U. S. Gov't
Master
Specification
No. 501

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR CARPETS, VELVET, PLAIN

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 501

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on July 11, 1927, for the use of the departments and independent establishments of the Government in the purchase of plain velvet carpets.

[The latest date on which the technical requirements of this specification shall become mandatory for all departments and independent establishments of the Government is October 11, 1927. They may be put into effect, however, at any earlier date after promulgation.]

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I. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

There are no general specifications applicable to this specification.

II. GRADE

This specification covers one grade of fabric, formerly called Wilton velvet or plain Wilton.

III. MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

Velvet fabric shall be woven from best quality filling wools with cotton warp and jute filling and stuffers. All weaving shall be evenly done in a neat and workmanlike manner.

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IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

See Detail requirements.

V. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. Yarns.—Yarns shall be spun from blended filling wools, thoroughly cleansed of all animal fat and foreign substances. It shall be carded, drawn, and spun until the resulting yarn is supple, elastic, and uniform in diameter and strength.

2. Dyeing.—Pile material shall be evenly and thoroughly dyed with permanent sun-fast dyes of the Alizerine type or equal.

3. Dissections.—There are tabulated below the average requirements for the grade desired. These dimensions are given as a guide, and are not restrictive. It is intended to secure fabrics from manufacturers' standard constructions which most nearly conform thereto. Each bidder shall submit the actual dissection or analysis by weight of the various materials contained in the fabrics offered by him. These shall be expressed in avoirdupois ounces per carpet yard 27 inches wide and 36 inches long. These will be considered confidential and will only be used by members of awarding agencies. Submitted dissections shall specify the name of the material and its use in the construction segregating weights for pile, warp, filling, and stuffers. The correctness of the submitted dissections will be verified from the samples, and the quality and quantity of materials and thoroughness of construction will receive consideration in connection with bid prices.

Shots	Pitch	Wires	Weight				
			Wool	Cotton warp	Jute		Total
					Filling	Stuffer	
			Ounces	*Ounces*	*Ounces*	*Ounces*	*Ounces*
2	216	9	21	5	7	11	44

4. Carpet Samples.—Bidders shall submit samples of each grade of carpet upon which they are bidding. They shall be 9 by 13½ inches and preferably not bound.

VI. METHOD OF INSPECTION AND TESTS

1. Inspection at Mill.—Mill inspection will not be made unless the contract or order so specifies. In connection with awards, the Government reserves the right to inspect bidder's stock and facilities to assure itself that he has in stock, or is in a position to supply, a reasonably large assortment of colors of carpets made of first-class

material and of high-grade workmanship, and that the samples submitted with the offer truly represent the carpets, and that they conform to the specified requirements.

2. Weight Tests.—Samples will be carefully weighed to ascertain the total weight per carpet yard. Small squares will be accurately cut, dissected, and the constituents carefully weighed as a check against the dissection analyses submitted with bids.

3. Fading Tests.—Samples will be exposed for 48 hours to an ultra-violet light as an accelerated light test.

VII. PACKING AND MARKING OF SHIPMENTS

Shall be in accordance with the best commercial practice unless otherwise specified.

VIII. NOTES

1. Awards.—Awards will be based on evaluated prices determined from actual weighings and dissections of submitted samples and the bid prices.

2. Sample Books.—Purchasing officers should include in advertisement for bids an item covering cost of sample books, indicating the number of samples intended to be selected to form a set and the probable number of sample books to be required.

3. Samples of Carpets to be Furnished by the Contractor.—As soon as practicable after award the contractor should submit a full line of samples, showing colors, from which selections will be made. After selections are made the contractor should make up the specified number of sets as follows: The samples should be 9 by 13½ inches, bound around the edges, punched, and grommeted. Each should have stenciled on its back its reference number or other designating symbol. Each set should be assembled in an extra heavy loose-leaf binder, with wood base and extra heavy cloth-covered board cover, with four binding standards.

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